

points traveled to or from and the exact mileage. Requests for lump sum allowance shall be granted for periods not to exceed one fiscal year.

h. The traveler shall be required to pay all operating expenses of the vehicle including fuel, repairs, and insurance.

5. Rented Motor Vehicles

a. Written approval of the department head prior to departure is required for the rental of vehicles. Such approval may be given when it is shown that vehicle rental is the only or most economical means by which the purposes of the trip can be accomplished. In each instance, documentation showing cost effectiveness of available options must be readily available in the reimbursement files. This authority shall not be delegated to any other person.

b. Only the cost of rental of a compact model is reimbursable, unless 1) non-availability is documented, 2) the vehicle will be used to transport more than two persons or 3) the cost of a larger vehicle is no more than the rental rate for a compact.

c. Insurance billed by car rental companies is not reimbursable for domestic travel. At the discretion of the department head, CDW costs only may be reimbursed for international travel. Following are some of the insurance packages available by rental vehicle companies that are not reimbursable:

1. Collision Damage Waiver (CDW) – should a collision occur while on official state business, the cost of the deductible should be paid by traveler and reimbursement claimed on a travel expense voucher. The accident should also be reported to the Office of Risk Management.

2. Loss Damage Waiver (LDW)

3. Personal Accident Insurance (PAC) – employees are covered under workmen's compensation while on official state business.

4. Auto Tow Protection (ATP)

5. Emergency Sickness Protection (ESP)

6. Supplement Liability Insurance (SLI)

d. Any personal mileage or rental days on a vehicle rented for official state business is not reimbursable and shall be deducted.

e. Reasonable gasoline cost is reimbursable – but not mileage on a rental vehicle. Receipts are required.

D. Public Ground Transportation

The cost of public ground transportation such as buses, subways, airport limousines, and taxis is reimbursable when the expenses are incurred as part of approved state travel. Taxi reimbursement is limited to \$15 per day without receipts; claims in excess of \$15 per day require receipts to account for total daily amount claimed.

S1505 Lodging and Meals

A. Eligibility

1. **Official Domicile/Temporary Assignment** - Travelers are eligible to receive reimbursement for travel only when away from "official domicile" or on temporary assignment unless exception is granted in accordance with these regulations. Temporary assignment will be deemed to have ceased after a period of thirty-one calendar days, and after such period the place of assignment shall be deemed to be his/her official domicile. He/she shall not be allowed travel and subsistence unless permission to extend the thirty-one day period has been previously secured from the commissioner of administration.

2. **Travel Period** - Travelers may be reimbursed for meals according to the following schedule:

a. **breakfast:** When travel begins at/or before 6 a.m. and extends beyond 9 a.m. on single day travel; or when travel begins at/or before 6 a.m. on the first day of travel or extends beyond

9 a.m. on the last day of travel, and for any intervening days.

b. lunch: Reimbursement shall **only** be made for lunch when 1) travel extends over at least one night or 2) if traveler is in travel status for 12 hours or more in duration. If travel extends overnight, lunch may be reimbursed for those days where travel begins at/or before 10 a.m. on the first day of travel, or extends beyond 2 p.m. on the last day of travel, and for any intervening days.

c. dinner: When travel begins at/or before 4 p.m. and extends beyond 8 p.m. on single day travel; or when travel begins at/or before 4 p.m. on the first day of travel or extends beyond 8 p.m. on the last day of travel and for any intervening days.

3. Alcohol - reimbursement for alcohol is prohibited.

B. Exceptions

1. Twenty Five Percent Over Allowances - Department heads may allow prior approval for their employees to exceed the lodging and meals provisions of these regulations by no more than **twenty five** percent on a case-by-case basis. Each case must be fully documented as to necessity (e.g. proximity to meeting place) and cost effectiveness of alternative options. Documentation must be readily available in the department's travel reimbursement files. This authority shall not be delegated to any other person. Reimbursement requests must be accompanied by receipt.

2. Actual Expenses for State Officers - State officers and others so authorized by statute (See Definitions under Authorized Persons) or individual exception will be reimbursed on an actual expenses basis for meals and lodging except in cases where other provisions for reimbursement have been made by statute. The request for reimbursement must be accompanied by a receipt or other supporting documents for each item claimed and shall not be extravagant and will be reasonable in relationship to the purpose of the travel. State officers entitled to actual expense reimbursements are only exempted from meals and lodging rates; they are subject to the time frames and all other requirements as listed in the travel regulations.

C. Traveler's Meals (Including Tax and Tips)

Travelers may be reimbursed up to the following amounts for meals.

	In-State	O/S Incl. N.O.	*High Cost & Above
Breakfast	\$6	\$ 6	\$8
Lunch	\$8	\$ 9	\$10
Dinner	<u>\$12</u>	<u>\$14</u>	<u>\$19</u>
	\$26	\$29	\$37

Receipts are not required for routine meals within these allowances. Number of meals claimed must be shown on travel voucher. **Partial meals such as continental breakfasts or airline meals are not considered meals.** If meals of state officials exceed these allowances, receipts are required.

D. Conference Meals

Cost allowance for meals direct billed to agency in conjunction with state-sponsored in-state conferences, **plus tax and mandated gratuity.**

Lunch In-State excluding New Orleans	\$10
Lunch - New Orleans	\$12

Conference Refreshment Expenditures:

Cost for a meeting, conference or convention are to be within the following rates: (note: refreshment expenses are not applicable to an individual traveler)

served on agency's property: not to exceed **\$2.00** per person, per morning and/or afternoon sessions

served on offsite properties that require catered services: not to exceed **\$3.50 plus tax and mandated gratuity** per person, per morning and/or afternoon sessions

E. Lodging (Employees will be reimbursed lodging rate, plus tax, Receipt Required)

\$55 In-state (except as listed)

\$65 Baton Rouge

\$70 Bossier City, Lake Charles, Shreveport
(Sulphur will be considered a suburb of Lake Charles)

\$90 New Orleans, (Gretna, Kenner, Metairie will be considered a suburbs of New Orleans, **for lodging only**)

\$65 Out-of-State (except those listed)

***\$105** High cost (Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Nashville, Oakland, Ca., Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, Or., San Diego, St. Louis, Seattle, Tampa, Fl., Wilmington, De., all of Alaska or Hawaii)

***\$120** Chicago, San Francisco, Washington, D.C.

***\$165** New York City

The inclusion of suburbs shall be determined by the department head on a case-by-case basis.

F. Conference Lodging (Employees will be reimbursed lodging rate, plus tax, Receipt Required)

1. Travelers may be reimbursed expenses for conference hotel lodging per the following rates, if the reservations are made at the actual conference hotel. When reservations are not available at the conference hotel and multi-hotels are offered in conjunction with a conference, traveler shall seek prices and utilize the least expensive. In the event all conference hotels are unavailable, then the traveler is subject to making reservations within the hotel rates as allowed in Section E, above.

\$65 In-state (except as listed))

\$70 Baton Rouge

\$80 Bossier City, Lake Charles, Shreveport

\$110 New Orleans, state sponsored conferences

\$140 out-of-state and New Orleans for non-state sponsored conferences

\$165 New York City

**The inclusion of suburbs shall be determined by the department head on a case-by-case basis*

2. For Conferences hosted by the state you must either use the state contracted travel services or solicit three (3) competitive quotes to include sleeping rooms, meeting rooms, meals and breaks, etc.

3. No reimbursements are allowed for functions not relating to a conference, i.e. tours, dances, etc.

G. Extended Stays - For travel assignment involving duty for extended periods (31 or more consecutive days) at a fixed location, the reimbursement rates indicated should be adjusted downward whenever possible. Claims for meals and lodging may be reported on a per diem basis supported by lodging receipt. Care should be exercised to prevent allowing rates in excess of those required to meet the necessary authorized subsistence expenses. It is the responsibility of each agency

head to authorize only such travel allowances as are justified by the circumstances affecting the travel.

S1506. Parking and Related Parking Expenses

1. Parking for the Baton Rouge Airport - actual expense will be paid up to a maximum daily allowance of \$3.50. No receipt required. (NOTE: current contract rate is available from the Baton Rouge Airport Parking for the outside, fenced lot. Not in the parking garage).

2. Parking for the New Orleans Airport - actual expense will be paid up to a maximum daily allowance of \$6.00. No receipt required. Park 'N Fly : \$6.00 daily and \$36.00 weekly.

3. Travelers using motor vehicles on official state business will be reimbursed for reasonable storage fees, for all other parking except as listed in #1 and #2 above, ferry fares, and road and bridge tolls. For each transaction over \$5, a receipt is required.

4. Tips for valet parking not to exceed \$1 per in and \$1 per out, per day.

S1507. Reimbursement for Other Expenses

The following expenses incidental to travel may be reimbursed:

1. Communications Expenses :

a. For official state business – all costs (receipts required for over \$3).

b. For domestic overnight travel - up to \$3 in personal calls upon arrival at each destination and up to \$3 for personal calls every second night after the first night if the travel extends several days.

c. For international travel – up to \$10 in personal calls upon arrival at each destination and up to \$10 for personal calls every second night after the first night if the travel extends several days.

d. Internet access charges from hotels – any department that wants to have a policy in this area should submit their request to the Division of Administration – Commissioner's Office for approval.

2. Charges for storage and handling of state equipment.

3. Baggage Tips :

a. Hotel Allowances - Not to exceed \$1 per bag for a maximum of three (3) bags. Tips may be paid one time upon each hotel check-in and one time upon each hotel check-out, if applicable.

b. Airport Allowances - Not to exceed \$1 per bag for a maximum of three (3) bags. Tips may be paid one time for the airport outbound departure trip and one time for the inbound departure trip.

4. Registration fees at conferences (meals that are a designated integral part of the conference may be reimbursed on an actual expense basis with prior approval by the department head).

5. Laundry services - employees on travel for more than seven days up to 14 days are eligible for \$20 of laundry services, and for more than 14 days up to 21 days an additional \$20 of laundry services, and so on. Receipts must be furnished.

S1508. Special Meals

A. Reimbursement designed for those occasions when, as a matter of extraordinary courtesy or necessity, it is appropriate and in the best interest of the state to use public funds for provision of a meal to a person who is not otherwise eligible for such reimbursement and where reimbursement is not available from another source.

1. Visiting dignitaries or executive-level persons from other governmental units, and persons providing identified gratuity services to the state. This explicitly does not include normal visits, meetings, reviews, etc, by federal or local representatives.

2. Extraordinary situations are when state employees are required by their supervisor to